THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. AL1 ASHRF FATMI): (a) to (c) Sporadic instance of corporal punishment in schools have been reported in the media in the recent past. Education is a concurrent subject and school education primarily comes under the purview of the State Governments. Details of physical punishment in schools are not Centrally maintained in this Ministry. Affiliation Bye-law of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), *inter-alia,* empowers school Managing Committee to place an employee under suspension if "he/she is charged with cruelty with any student or any employee of the school". CBSE has issued a circular to its affiliated schools not to resort to corporal/physical punishment of students. Government of India has issued an advisory on 17.12.2007 to State Governments to prohibit corporal punishment in schools under their jurisdiction. Corporal punishment has been strictly prohibited in schools run by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Navodaya Vidayalaya Samiti and Central Tibetan School Administration, which are under the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Allocation for education under Eleventh Five Year Plan

987. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to spend around 20 per cent of the total Eleventh Five Year Plan budget on education, more than double the amount spent on this sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan, which was around nine per cent;

(b) whether the existing educational institutions must restructure themselves to absorb this volume of funds;

(c) if so, what are the total funds that have been allocated for the education during 2008-09; and

(d) what concrete measures and steps Government proposes to take to utilize these funds for immediate betterment of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Eleventh Five Year Plan allocation of Rs. 2,69,873 crore has been made available for the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Rs. 1,84,930 crore for Department of School Education and Literacy and 84,943 crore for Department of Higher Education). This constitutes 4.6 fold increase over the expenditure of about Rs. 58,820 crore incurred during Tenth Five Year Plan and 19.4% of the overall Central Plan allocation.

(b) The increased allocation providing during Eleventh Five Year Plan is proposed to be utilized for expansion of existing institutions, opening of new institutions and improvement in the quality of education.

(c) The total Plan allocation for the Ministry of Human Resource Development for 2008-09 is Rs. 34,400 crore (Rs. 7,600 crore for the Department of Higher Education and Rs. 26,800 crore for the Department of School Education and Literacy).

(d) The increased allocation during Eleventh Plan is expected to be utilized for expansion of capacity to increase access while ensuring quality and inclusivehess and also to take steps for improving quality of education

Schools in minority-dominated districts

988. SHRIMATI N.P DURGA: Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any priority is given to minority-dominated 90 districts in opening up of 6,000 schools, proposed to be opened in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such districts in Andhra Pradesh, which are eligible to get the benefit of opening up of Model Senior Secondary schools there;

(c) whether any consultations have been made with the National Minorities Education Committee; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The Prime Minister in his Independence Day Speech on 15.08.07 has announced the decision of the Government to support 6,000 high quality model schools throughout the country, at the rate of one in every block, to set standards of excellence for other schools in the area. The proposal includes including minority dominated blocks and blocks in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Attendence of children under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

t989. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made in respect of the children not going to schools in the country under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the number of such children. State-wise; and

(c) the special efforts being made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to send those children to schools?

THE MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), an independent survey was commissioned in July-August, 2005 which brought out that 1.34 crore children were out of school in the 6-14 years age group. This figure has reduced to 75.97 lakhs in March, 2007 as per State Government Reports. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

Since, the remaining out of school children constitute "the most difficult to access * group", context specific interventions for children who are "hard to reach", such as bridge courses, learning centres with flexible timings, seasonal hostels, home based education, mobile schools, have been taken up under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme. The Government of India has undertaken orientation and capacity building workshops with States/UTs with illustrative case studies of good practices, to encourage State/districts to implement such context specific interventions.

tOnginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.